

Serial No. 10/750,447

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 3 and 7. This sheet, which includes Figs. 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10. In Figs. 3 and 7, previously omitted element 33a has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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Reply to Office Action of 3/27/06
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

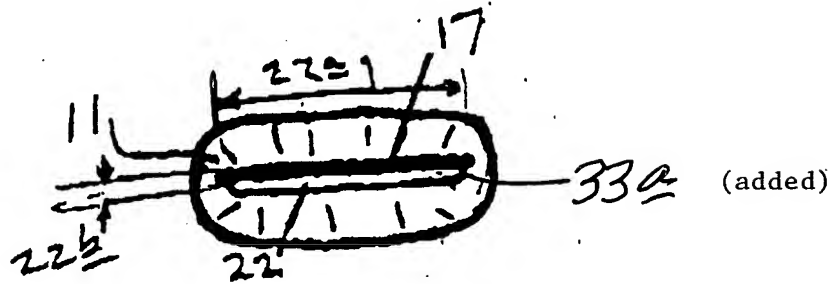


FIG 3

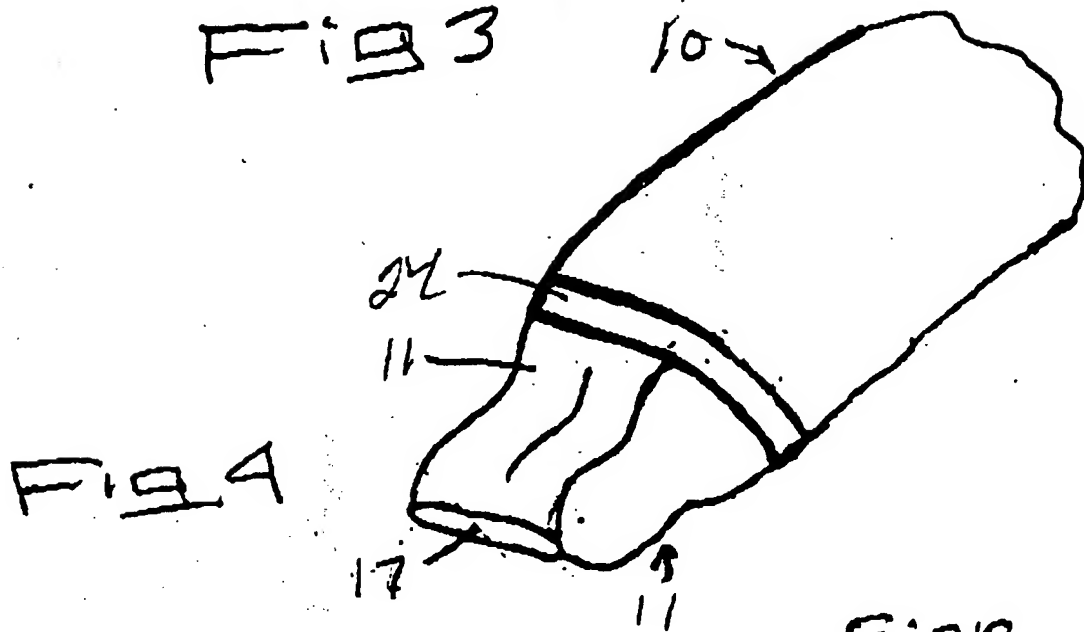


FIG 4

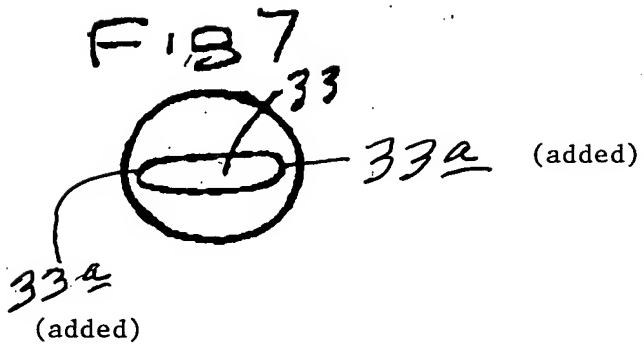


FIG 7

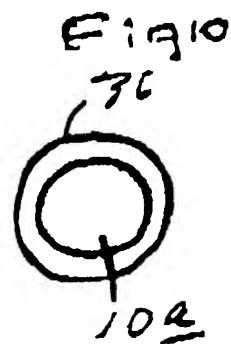


FIG 10

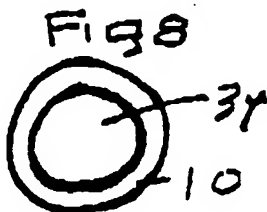


FIG 8

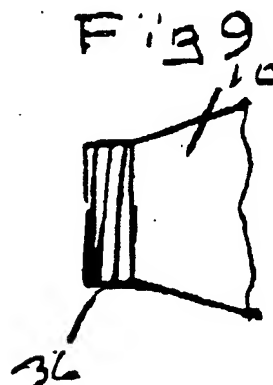


FIG 9

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R E M A R K S

Regarding the election of species, the species of Figs. 19 and 19a should be included within elected Species I. In this regard, it is noted that the Action did not exclude Figs. 19 and 19a from the elected species. Claims 58-60 should not be withdrawn as they read on Figs. 19 and 19a, inter alia, which should be included in the elected species. Claim 71 reads on Fig. 4, so should not be withdrawn.

Regarding the ABSTRACT, it reads as follows, showing that "is disclosed" is not included"

"Apparatus for use with a hand manipulable flowable material dispenser, the combination comprising a dispensing nozzle associated with the dispenser to dispense material, and a spreader surface associated with the nozzle whereby the dispenser may be manipulated to cause the spreader surface to spread material dispensed via the nozzle, and the spreader surface can be used to spread material around after it is dispensed."

Appropriate drawing corrections have been made, and corrected sheets are enclosed.

In Figs. 5 and 6, the blade is now designated at

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"17", instead of 34, to be consistent with Figs. 1-3. The arcuate and concave surfaces at widthwise opposite ends of the narrowed opening (i.e. exit) 33 are designated at 33a. See the wording of the specification at line 5, page 12. (See also Fig. 20.)

The reference numeral 610 is present in Fig. 26 and in the text at page 18, line 1. Examiner refers to reference character "87" but it does not appear that that reference character has been used.

Regarding the '112 claim rejection, appropriate changes have been made to overcome them.

Regarding the 102 and 103 rejections, please note that base claims 1 and 73 now define the dispenser opening arcuate and concave surfaces (as at 33a) at widthwise opposite ends of the narrowed extrusion opening, which contribute to flow through of the material and spreading of the depository layer of material being extruded. (A reduction in thickness of the layer at its widthwise opposite ends aids spreading of the particular relatively thin layer being dispensed.)

No cited art including Woods, Hertz and Knapp suggest the above, in the totality of the base claims as referred to, whereby the base claims and all claims

dependent therefrom should justifiably be found allowable. Woods' slit has to flex open and so does not have fixed dimension structure as claimed; Knapp has no widthwise elongated opening as claimed, or opening concave surface at opposite ends of an elongated width opening; and Hertz's slit structure lacks suggestion of the claimed structure, for similar reasons. There is no motivation in these references to re-configure them to meet the totalities of the base claims 1, 58 at c), and 73. Each reference is satisfied with his own structure.

Claim 58 now includes the following detailed structure (see also the text at page 13, bottom, and page 14, top).

- g) the container and nozzle having a material dispensing position in which the container and nozzle extend directionally forwardly and downwardly and at an acute angle toward and relative to the layer of material being dispensed, there being protective structure carried by and fixedly connected to the dispenser and which extends substantially everywhere above the nozzle and its end opening and faces only forwardly and

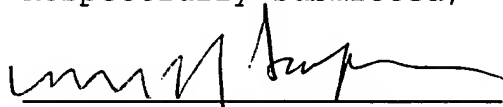
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downwardly relative to the nozzle and its end opening, and also has flexible extent that extends beyond the nozzle end opening to a location in which said structure extends openly protectively over and proximate the layer of material being dispensed, said protective structure having a terminal sufficiently offset from the nozzle end opening by a sufficient distance that a tip defined by the terminal does not engage the tip of the dispensed layer as during dispensing of that layer.

Clearly, no cited art including Woods, Hertz and Knapp teaches or suggests the detailed structural totality of claim 58, and no motivation exists in these references to reconfigure them to meet the totality of claim 58.

Allowance is respectfully urged.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'William W. Haefliger', written over a horizontal line.

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